Hunting	
Regulations	

Piedmont is one of over 500 National Wildlife Refuges. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunts maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with available habitat, provide wholesome recreation opportunities, and permit the use of valuable renewable resources.

## General Hunt Regulations

Public hunting is permitted on approximately 34,000 acres of Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge. Areas closed to hunting are marked with signs and orange paint.

The Hitchiti Experimental Forest is open for hunting only during refuge hunting seasons with a Piedmont Refuge hunt special use permit and in accordance with refuge hunting regulations.

In addition to Federal regulations, State Game and Fish laws and regulations are adopted and in effect unless they have been further restricted by Federal law or regulations.

Deer killed during archery and gun hunts and all turkeys **must be checked** in at the refuge check station the day killed before leaving the refuge.

On deer gun hunts, hunters should NOT tag their deer at the site of the kill. The deer should be taken to the refuge check station where a special deer tag will be provided. These deer will not count toward a hunter's season limit. Two deer may be killed on any one deer gun hunt.

On the deer archery hunt, deer MUST BE TAGGED at the site of the kill and count toward the season's limit.

<u>Type Hunt</u>	Hunting Seasons Required Permits	<u>Season Dates</u>
Deer—Either Sex Archery	No Quota	September 16- October 1, 2000
Deer—Either Sex Handicapped Hunt	Special Refuge Permit for Wheel Chair Bound Persons	October 13-14, 2000
Deer—Bucks only with visible antlers Firearms	1,250	October 26-28, 2000
Deer—Either Sex Primitive Weapons	1,250	November 2-4, 2000
Deer - Either Sex Firearms	1,250 1,250	November 10-11, 2000 November 17-18, 2000
Quail, Squirrel,Rabbit	Small Game No Quota	State season except refuge small game hunts will be closed during refuge deer hunts.
Raccoon, Opossum	No Quota	January 5-6, 2001 January 12-13, 2001 January 19-20, 2001 January 26-27, 2001
Spring Turkey	200 200 200 200 200 200	March 29-31, 2001 April 5-7, 2001 April 12-14, 2001 April 19-21, 2001 April 26-28, 2001

No processed deer may be possessed unless they have been checked at the refuge check station and refuge personnel have been notified.

Driving nails, spikes, or other metal objects into trees; or hunting from trees in which metal objects have been driven is prohibited.

No hunter flagging, blazing, painting, or trail marking devices may be used to locate stands or for any other purposes.

During the deer archery, small game and turkey seasons, the wildlife drive in Compartments 21 and 22 will be closed to hunting.

Camping is permitted only in the Pippins Lake Campground in Compartment 19. The campground

will open at 8:00 am, the day before each deer or turkey hunt and close at 11:00 am. the day after the hunt. A refuge hunt special use permit is required to enter the campground.

No person shall unreasonably disturb or annoy other persons on the refuge. No audio equipment, such as radios or other noise making devices, may be used after 10:00 pm. or before 7:00 am. EST in such a manner that may be heard by other visitors or at any time when they cause unreasonable disturbance to others in the vicinity.

Hunting hours for special night hunts for raccoon and opossum are from 6:00 pm. to 6:00 am. on days listed. Weapons permitted during raccoon hunts are limited to .22 rimfire firearms.

Licenses, permits, all hunting equipment and effects, and vehicles or other conveyances are subject to inspection by Federal and State officers.

## Safety Regulations

Children ages 10-16 must carry a valid hunter safety card for all hunts and be under direct adult supervision. Children must be at least 10 years old to hunt big game.

Shooting of guns or bows in the campground is prohibited. Transporting loaded weapons in vehicles and hunting or shooting from a road open for vehicle travel are prohibited.

Hunters are cautioned to identify their targets before shooting.

Buckshot is not permitted on refuge hunts.

Hunting is not permitted within 50 vards of a road open to vehicle travel or 200 yards of a building.

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited except in the designated camping area.

Please drive with caution. Most hunter access roads are narrow. graveled and contain creek fords. Loose gravel and uneven road surfaces lessen vehicle control. Rain makes roads slippery and the crossing of creek fords hazardous. Vehicle travel, which includes bycyles, is limited to open graveled roads. Vehicle travel around or through a closed gate is prohibited. Please do not block gates or roads. No off-road vehicles are allowed.

Each year we search for several lost hunters. Each hunter should become familiar with and use a compass.

## Public Access

The refuge is open during daylight hours for general public use and foot travel including pre-hunt scouting year-round except during managed

deer and turkey hunts when a valid hunt permit is required to enter the hunt area. Some access roads may be closed for small game and turkey seasons or in bad weather. The hunt area is open from 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset.

Refuge is closed to general public on quota hunt days.

## How to get refuge permits

Permits are required for all hunters regardless of age and are not transferable. When signed, this brochure serves as your permit for the small game and deer archery hunts. Additional permits may be obtained at refuge headquarters or by mail.

Application forms for the deer gun hunts should be available in June and must be returned to the refuge office by 12:00 noon on August 31, 2000. A public drawing will be held at 1:00 pm. August 31, 2000.

Applications for the Spring turkey hunts should be available in January and must be returned to the refuge office by 12:00 noon on February 28, 2001. A public drawing will be held at 1:00 pm. February 28, 2001.

Deer and turkey hunters who return their permits after the hunts or those that return their rejection notices will automatically be mailed an application form the following year.

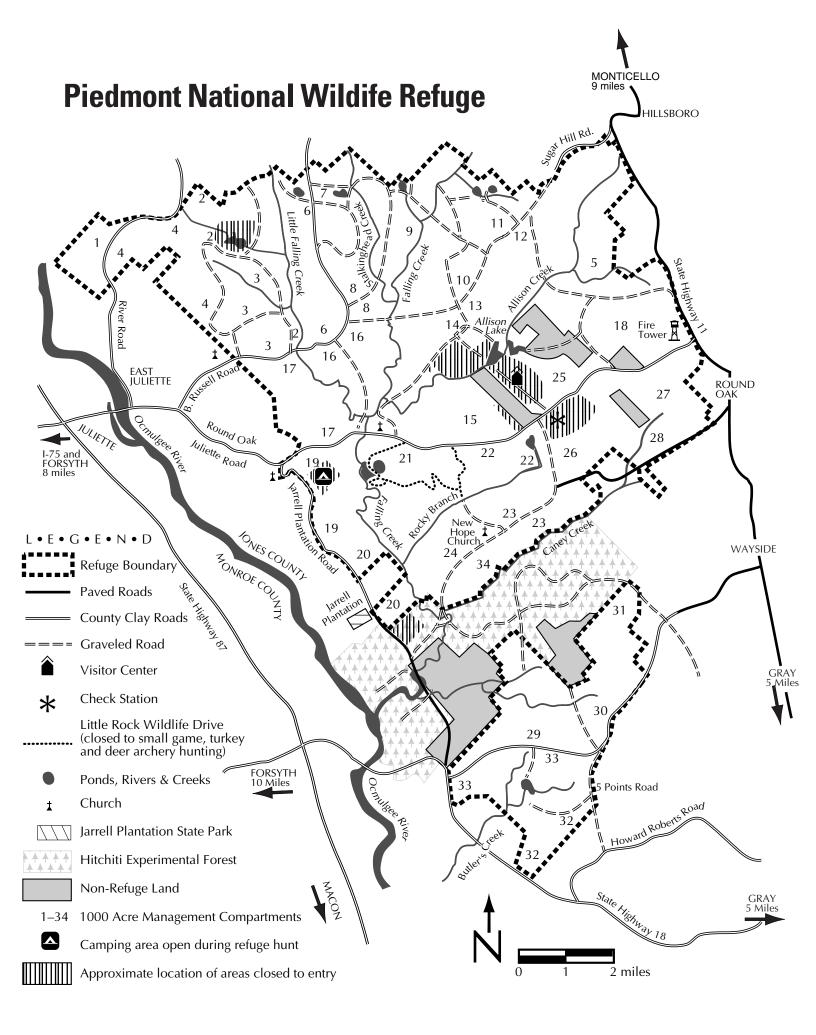
Persons interested in the special handicapped hunt (only wheel-chair bound persons) should contact the Refuge Office for information concerning this hunt by October 1.

Littering is illegal, unsightly, and can leave a bad image of hunters. Pick up litter when you see it.

Contact the for more at912/986 5441.

Please report any violations of refuge regulations or any problems you have to the refuge office.

refuge office information



Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge 718 Round Oak-Juliette Road Round Oak, Georgia 31038 912/986 5441

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service 1 800/344 WILD http://www.fws.gov/r4eao

March 2000





Refuge Hunting Permit 2000-2001
When signed, this brochure is your permit for the small game, deer archery hunts, and raccoon hunts.

Signature



iedmont